

1 THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6

7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
9 AT SEATTLE

10 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

11 Plaintiff,

v.

12 KEITH SILVERSON,

13 Defendant.

CASE NO. CR20-0217-JCC

ORDER

14  
15 This matter comes before the Court on the Defendant's unopposed motion to seal (Dkt.  
16 No. 497) exhibits to his sentencing memorandum (Dkt. Nos. 498, 499, 500).

17 The First Amendment protects the public's right of access to criminal trials. *See, e.g.,*  
18 *Globe Newspaper Co. v. Super. Ct. for Norfolk Cnty.*, 457 U.S. 596, 606 (1982). The public also  
19 has a common law right to inspect and copy public records, including those from judicial  
20 proceedings. *See Nixon v. Warner Commc'ns*, 435 U.S. 589, 597 (1978). But these rights are not  
21 absolute. They must yield when (1) sealing a document serves a compelling interest, (2) that is  
22 substantially likely to be harmed if the document is not sealed, and (3) there are no less  
23 restrictive alternatives for protecting the interest. *See United States v. Doe*, 870 F.3d 991, 998  
24 (9th Cir. 2017).

25 The exhibits at issue (Dkt. Nos. 498, 499, 500) contain confidential information, the  
26 disclosure of which could be harmful to the Defendant. Keeping them under seal serves a

1 compelling interest that is likely to be harmed if not sealed, and no less restrictive alternatives  
2 would protect the interest.

3 Accordingly, the Court finds good cause and the motion to seal (Dkt. No. 497) is  
4 GRANTED. The Clerk is DIRECTED to maintain Docket Numbers 498, 499, and 500 under  
5 seal.

6 DATED this 17th day of January 2023.

7  
8  
9  
10 John C. Coughenour  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26



---

John C. Coughenour  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE